City of Lafayette Staff Report

For: City Council

By: Ann Merideth, Community Development Director

Date Written: January 20, 2009

Meeting Date: January 26, 2009

Subject: Letter of support for the County Library's application for an IMLS National Leadership planning grant for the Lafayette Library and Learning Center

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Summary

Contra Costa County Library is submitting an application for a federal Institute of Museum and Library Services collaborative planning grant under the IMLS' National Leadership program. This grant will support the initial planning for the Glenn Seaborg Learning Center by the County and Lafayette Library and Learning Center Foundation. It is anticipated that at least two members of the Consortium, Lawrence Hall of Science and Commonwealth Club, will partner with the County and Foundation to develop a prototype for the Consortium programming. The County's application is requesting $40,000-60,000 in funding to develop and test the prototype. Staff is recommending that the Council provide a letter of support for the County's application. A draft letter is attached.

Recommendation

Direct staff to prepare the letter for the Mayor's signature.

DRAFT

January 26, 2009

Anne Cain
County Librarian
Contra Costa County
75 Santa Barbara Road
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Subject: IMLS Grant Collaborative Planning Grant Application for the Glenn Seaborg Learning Consortium at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center

Dear Ms. Cain:

On the behalf of the Lafayette City Council, I want to offer the City's full support for Contra Costa County Library's application for an IMLS collaborative planning grant. The application is to develop a prototype for programming at the new Lafayette Library and Learning Center with members of the Glenn Seaborg Planning Consortium.

The City and County Library have long enjoyed a close relationship to provide library and other educational opportunities to the Lafayette community. This relationship has grown stronger in our mutual efforts to build the new Lafayette Library and Learning Center and create the Glenn Seaborg Learning Consortium. This Consortium, with twelve of California's most distinguished educational and cultural organizations, will provide the programs, workshops, archives, exhibits and curricula that the community is awaiting with the opening of the new Library.

The City agreed to sponsor the Consortium in 2004 when we adopted the attached resolution, and since then, our sponsorship and support have been unwavering. The award of an IMLS planning grant will allow the Consortium to take the next step towards offering sustainable programming at the LLLC, and becoming a national model for libraries in other communities.

Therefore, with this letter of support, the City of Lafayette is requesting that IMLS award a collaborative planning grant to Contra Costa County Library and your Consortium partners.

Sincerely,

Don Tatzin
Mayor